

guide them in wisdom; teach them Thy knowledge. Jesus Christ, whose heart is touched with a pity for our infirmities, go with them from this place, so that with a greater faith and nobler service they may do Thy will and give glory unto Thee. These and all blessings for ourselves and for all men we ask for the sake of Him who has taught us to pray, saying, 'Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.'"

MISS NUTTING.—We have the great good fortune to have with us this morning the Hon. Henry B. F. MacFarland, President of the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia, who will extend to the visiting members of our society a welcome in the name of the city.

The Hon. Henry B. F. MacFarland, President of the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia, delivered the following

#### ADDRESS OF WELCOME

"MADAM PRESIDENT AND LADIES, AND DR. RADCLIFFE: The doctor and I feel very lonely on this occasion. It has been my pleasant office for several years to have the opportunity of welcoming to the Capital City many conventions, but usually they are conventions of men, and that is a comparatively easy task. Even though I have passed the first Osler period and am no more capable of creative work, I am able to create an address for mere men, but when it comes to the superior sex I confess that I stand, as usual, in awe and trepidation. However, back of every man there is, of course, a woman making or marring him, and back of me, fortunately, stands my wife, who, after all, contributes all that is best in my speeches, and naturally I turned to her. I said, 'This is a very serious emergency that confronts me,' and she reminded me of the girl who, when she was asked what she would do if the young man offered to kiss her, said, 'I should meet the emergency face to face.'

"She also has contributed a clipping which she cut from yesterday's New York *Tribune*, and which reads: 'Miss Death was brought to the German Hospital in Philadelphia to be operated upon for appendicitis; she was the daughter, she said, of an undertaker; the name of the surgeon who was chosen to perform the operation was Dye—Frank Hackett Dye. When the operation was over Miss Death was placed in charge of two nurses, Miss Payne and Miss Grone; Miss Payne was the day nurse and Miss Grone the night nurse. The patient recovered rapidly (and that was one of the occasions when not only the operation was successful

but when the patient recovered) and in a short period bade good-by to the two faithful nurses, Miss Payne and Miss Grone and to Dr. Dye.' I think she was very fortunate to escape.

"We take particular pleasure on behalf of the government and the people of the District of Columbia in welcoming you to Washington, first, because you are women, and second, because you are doing some of the noblest work in the world. You can truthfully say that your profession is a calling, and a calling of God in the good old phrase. In the great army of those who are marching ever over against the army of those who kill you have a most valuable place. You have won it as a profession in a very short time comparatively by honest, intelligent, high-minded self-sacrifice and great effort. We find it impossible to give our highest admiration to mere material achievement or to selfish aggrandizement, however splendid it may seem. We feel instinctively and rightfully that there must be unselfishness in success and in the service of others—indeed, sacrifice and denial of self—to draw out the homage of our hearts. Captains of industry, of science, and of skill may command and do command our head, but not our heart, by their achievements, and the best of them after they have won their kind of success crave the higher kind and try to do something to win it. Your sisters who have given their lives in saving others have ennobled you all. Hence, we desire to serve you and to honor your profession, and for this reason, as well as to protect the public, we here are endeavoring to secure for the District of Columbia a law which will give the trained nurse the highest status and protection in her profession and in her work, given her by the best laws in the world, and I am gratified to say that I believe there is good hope of its enactment at the next session of Congress. It was a personal pleasure for me to handle the measure, so far as the Commissioners were concerned; of course, I had the advice of your representatives here, and especially of our friend, Miss Nevins, whom we all honor, but for the legal side of it and for the official side of it I was very glad to have my opportunity, and I am very pleased to believe, as I have already said, that it is likely to be looked favorably upon at the next session of Congress.

"We are very sure that we will have your sympathy and support in whatever may be done, and I want once more to say that I trust you may have a most profitable and pleasant visit here. I cannot say in words what is in the hearts of all of us who have placed ourselves at times, or, far more important, those whom we love, in the hands of the representatives of your profession. It would be impossible for me to say in any public gathering what we owe to you through them, but I have already said, and I desire to repeat, that I represent, I am sure, the sentiment of our whole people when I bid you a hearty welcome."

MISS NUTTING.—I will call upon Miss Isabel McIsaac, of the Illinois Training-School, to respond to this address.

Miss McIsaac responded as follows:

“MADAM PRESIDENT, LADIES: I feel that it is a distinctive honor as well as a pleasure to be asked to respond in behalf of the American Federation of Nurses to the cordial greetings that we have received from Washington, both from the nurses and the citizens. I think I may say without danger of giving offence to our hosts of previous occasions that in no city has there been such a lively interest and pleasure exhibited in anticipation as there has been for this meeting in Washington, and certainly our anticipations have been fully realized if the members present are any evidence. We feel very glad to enroll ourselves among that long list of organizations which so many years ago gave this delightful city the name of ‘The Convention City,’ and I trust that this first meeting of the American Federation of Nurses, which has so fittingly taken place at the seat of the government of the nation, shall be an omen for its future, because the American Federation of Nurses up to this time has simply been a name, and we need that it shall be something besides a name. The two great associations, the Superintendents’ and the Alumnae, have widely diversified aims, but we have many aims in common, and if the old saying that the boy is the father of the man is a true one, then I think that the pupil nurse is the mother of the superintendent of nurses. Again I would voice the sentiment of the Federation of Nurses in giving thanks to the graduate nurses and to their friends and to Washington for this very cordial greeting and warm hospitality.”

Miss M. A. Nutting addressed the Federation as follows:

#### ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT

“MY FELLOW-WORKERS: This meeting is one of much significance. It is the first formal gathering together of our two important nursing societies to consider the purposes for which we are federated, and to determine our powers and responsibilities in that relationship.

“This Federation, entered into some years ago, unites the great body of graduate nurses, known as the Associated Alumnae, in whom we see represented by delegates here to-day nearly one hundred of the alumnae associations of the best schools of our country, and behind them standing an army of over seven thousand nurses, and the older and smaller body, the superintendents and the teachers.

“There is a peculiar interest about this gathering to one who, at a convention of superintendents held in Philadelphia in 1896, listened to the story of how such a national association of nurses as this might be